

LF004

REMARKS**IN THE CLAIMS****35 USC § 102**

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either one of E.P. 1,099,531 or German Patent 19846852.

The EP and German documents do not have a positioning disc but a rather thin-walled cylindrical positioning ring 4 with radial holes in its wall which serve as thread guides. Fig. 1b shows a cross-section through this positioning ring cut along the line of the axial edge 16 of the deflection element 12. Since these holes do not have any slits to either axial end of the positioning ring, the filaments to be wound around the cylindrical mandrel 32 first need to be threaded through those holes 6.

The present invention eliminates the onerous task of threading the filament ends through holes by providing guides 9 on a (not in a) circular ring of the positioning disc. For clarification, claim 1 has been amended to express more clearly that the filament guides are on an axial end surface (as shown in Fig. 1, for example). Also, the limitations of claim 7 have been included in claim 6.

By this means, the filaments can be easily positioned in the grooves created by the guide struts 10 without threading.

35 USC § 102

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either one of E.P. 1,099,531 or German Patent 19846852 further taken with McClean.

McClean, just like the EP and German documents, requires threading of the filaments 16 through holes. In this case, two rings 25 are permanently connected via pins 19 provided with rollers 28. The filaments are threaded through the gaps between the rollers 28 (col. 3, line 69 – col. 4, line 20).

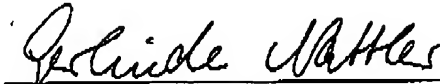
Accordingly, McClean, alone or in combination with either of the EP or German document, cannot suggest an arrangement according to amended claim 6.

LF004

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6-10 are patentable and in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerlinde Nattler 51,272
Continental Teves, Inc.
One Continental Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
(248) 393-8721
linda.nattler@usa.contiteves.com
Agent for Applicants